

Head of School

Friday 7th March 2025

UPDATE

Dear parents/carers and students,

On Tuesday, we had SALAD Day, which stands for 'Speaking and Listening Activity Day'. This day promotes speaking and listening activities within lessons to encourage students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 to gain confidence in these areas. Departments planned for a range of activities from debating, presenting, group discussion, teamwork activities and much more. It was fantastic to be able to walk Mrs Curson, Head of Bourne Academy around all classrooms in the school whilst these activities were taking place. She was very impressed with the students involvement and confidence to debate topics particularly in Science where some strong and informative opinions were communicated on the topic of 'Should we cull sharks?'

On Thursday this week, we celebrated World Book Day, where our Year 7 students were able to attend school dressed as their favourite character from a book. This included characters from many classics, young adults fiction, graphic novels and biographies. We were impressed there were so many amazing costumes with lots of thought, effort and imagination gone into them for this optional activity. We held a 'Best Costume' competition in the Library at lunchtime where there were gift voucher prizes and certificates for the winners. Congratulations to all of the students who took part – they were some many amazing entries to choose from.

Details of the winners and lots of photos will be on our website and social media next week. Here is a teaser of just some of the students who took part.



This week, we have seen our Year 11 Food students complete their final practical GCSE examination. I have been so proud of every one of them and the skills they have developed since embarking on the course in Year 10. There have been some amazing dishes served in the Giles MasterChef kitchen where there had been an outstanding menu of this year's theme 'Healthy Takeaways'. Well done to all students involved!

We have been celebrating International Women's Day, which will be celebrated across the world on Saturday 8th March 2025. In school we have focused on this topic during assemblies this week and will be part of our SMSC sessions (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural education) next week. By educating our students on the history and global issues around women's rights, we can help empower the next generation and also change attitudes around misogyny as we work towards a world with gender equality.

There have been some outstanding sporting successes this week! Our Year 7 netball team winning consecutive matches with Monday night securing a win against Thomas Middlecott Academy 19-1 and a victory against Haven High Academy on Tuesday with another impressive score 19-2! I was fortunate enough to see this team play on Monday evening and what superb sportsmanship was demonstrated throughout the match – well done to all involved! On Tuesday we saw our Year 8 netballers securing a convincing win after a dominant display with the final scoreline being 38-9!



All students are working towards completing their Aspire Passports and this week Year 11 students have received their Year 11 Aspire Passport – Steps to Success! During this important time for Year 11 they have set tasks to complete to maximise their learning including attending interventions and the upcoming GCSE Revision evening. The slogan to the Year 11 passport is 'The more you learn, the more you earn' as students are assigned an incentivised scheme to support their learning with the reward of money vouchers attached! We are also seeing more students move on to achieving their Silver award and it has been my pleasure to reward not only Silver award, even one or two Gold Awards which is an outstanding achievement!

At the end of this update are details of our extra-curricular and enrichment activities for Term 4. There are activities and sessions that take place during lunchtime and after-school that include subject interventions, revision and homework sessions plus clubs and performances for art, drama, music and much more. The aim of this programme is not only to develop academic skills, but improve self-confidence, life-skills and leadership experiences as well as being enjoyable. For Year 11, there are additional intervention sessions that are designed to help students achieve the best GCSE grades possible in the lead up to their summer exams.

It is always important to continually remind our students and parents of the wide platform of safeguarding support offered at all of our Trust schools. We widely highlight and signpost supportive strategies to enable students know where to access support and contacts for safeguarding and mental health concerns. Our school based email worried@gilesacademy.co.uk is accessible at all times for students and I would also like to remind parents that all schools have a support room SS2. SS2 is offered to students that may need additional space and time out of lessons, this is considered on a case by case arrangement. There is also a comprehensive list of support services to be signposted to in order to access external specialist services, these can all be found on the school website - www.gilesacademy.co.uk/safeguarding. One important service to highlight is Kooth www.kooth.com, which is a service we often promote to our young people. It is an online support and counselling service which is available 24 hours 7 days a week. It is a platform which is easily accessible to students and run by professionals to provide a free and safe space to communicate concerns and worries by name or anonymously.



I would like to inform parents/carers that on Friday 21st March 2025, it is Comic Relief / Red Nose Day and we will traditionally hold a non-uniform day at the school. A letter will be sent out next week to remind parents/carers about the non-uniform clothing that can be worn on this day. This year we would like students and staff to **wear something red** to support the event.

Finally, this week it has been Year 6 Offer Day and I am extremely proud to communicate that once again, Giles Academy will be oversubscribed in Year 7 with a rapidly increasing waiting list. The rapid growth of the popularity in the local community is testament to the school's sustained success since joining South Lincolnshire Academies Trust. We have already been making plans to welcome these new students to the school and this week they will all be receiving their New Student Welcome Pack.

I hope you all have a fantastic weekend.

Kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Katie Belcher', written in a cursive style.

Miss Katie Belcher

Head of School, Giles Academy

For the **latest news**

You can follow Giles Academy on our official social media platforms as follows:

- www.instagram.com/GilesAcademySLAT
- www.facebook.com/GilesAcademy
- www.x.com/GilesSLAT



**Join the
no 1 ranked**

Multi Academy
Trust (MAT) in the
East Midlands area

Become a Teaching Assistant

INFORMATION EVENING

Wednesday 12th March 2025 • 5.30pm to 7.00pm

Becoming a Teaching Assistant is a highly rewarding and valued job at South Lincolnshire Academies Trust. Due to expansion, we are looking to recruit even more Teaching Assistants to join our SEN team.

You can drop-in anytime between 5.30pm to 7.00pm for the opportunity to speak to our staff for more information about the role and how it can also further develop your career in our Trust. You can also find out more about the Teaching Assistant Responsibility allowance (TAR) which can be worth up to £2,000 for suitable candidates.

This event is for those who are interested in working at ANY of our Trust schools (Bourne Academy, Spalding Academy, Giles Academy and Cowley Academy).

To attend, please visit www.slat.org.uk/vacancies to register in advance.

We also have vacancies advertised for Teaching Assistants on this website so you can even apply today.



Spalding Academy, Neville Avenue, Spalding, Lincolnshire PE11 2EJ
www.slat.org.uk/vacancies



TRAIN TO TEACH WITH
LINCOLNSHIRE ITT



Get Into Teaching

OPEN EVENING

Wednesday 12th March 2025 • 5.30pm to 7.00pm

South Lincolnshire Academies Trust (SLAT) are now one of the **Lead Partners for Lincolnshire ITT** and can talk to you about starting your teaching journey with us. At this 'Get Into Teaching' event, which will be held at Spalding Academy, you will discover how you can gain a recognised teaching qualification with our one-year school centred Initial Teacher Training.

If any of the following applies to you, you will benefit from attending:

- Recently gained a Level 6 undergraduate degree (e.g. BA, BSc, BEd, BEng) in any subject
- Currently studying a Level 6 undergraduate degree (e.g. BA, BSc, BEd, BEng) in any subject
- Currently studying A-levels or Level 3 BTECs and wanting to get into teaching
- Wanting to change career and become a teacher
- Working in a non-teaching role within a school or college environment and wanting to get into teaching

You could train either at the schools in our highly successful Trust (Bourne Academy, Spalding Academy, Giles Academy and Cowley Academy) or at a variety of other secondary schools in the Lincolnshire, Rutland and Peterborough areas.

This event starts at 5.30pm where there will be a presentation then the opportunity to speak to staff informally. You will learn about the different training pathways, entry requirements and details about student finances. We will cover school placements, the course content, support available plus timescales. We can also provide help so you can successfully apply.

To attend, please visit www.slat.org.uk/vacancies to register in advance.



TRAIN TO TEACH WITH
LINCOLNSHIRE ITT



South Lincolnshire
Academies Trust

Spalding Academy, Neville Avenue, Spalding, Lincolnshire PE11 2EJ
www.slat.org.uk/vacancies



Extra-curricular activities

TERM 3 (Monday 24th February to Friday 4th April 2025)

Lunchtime extra-curricular activities

MONDAY LUNCHTIME				
Sport	Fitness Suite	Year 11	Fitness Suite	Miss Ward
Sport	CNAT Sports Intervention	Years 10/11	A07	Mr Reed
Business	Business Intervention	Year 11	B01	Mrs Pell
DofE	The Duke of Edinburgh's Award	Years 10/11	A09	Miss Cocks
Health & Social Care	Health & Social Care Intervention	Year 11	A06	Miss Harris
Science	Science Surgery (Homework Club)	Years 7/8/9	C11	Mr Vrstiak
Science	Combined Science Revision	Year 11	D08	Mr Castley
TUESDAY LUNCHTIME				
Sport	CNAT Sports Intervention	Years 10/11	A07	Miss Ward
Art	Intervention GCSE Open Studio	Years 10/11	A07	Miss McDonald
English	English Intervention (Grade 4)	Year 11	E08	Mr Woods
English	English Intervention (Grade 5+)	Year 11	E04	Ms Kamsika
Geography	Geography Intervention	Year 11	D03	Mrs Stones
Science	Science Intervention (Foundation)	Year 10	D14	Miss Ortan
WEDNESDAY LUNCHTIME				
Art	KS3 Art Club	Years 7/8/9	A03	Miss Salisbury
Business	Business Intervention	Year 11	B01	Mrs Pell
English	Imaginary Worlds Creative Writing	Year 7	E01	Miss Spring
English	English Homework Club	Years 7/8/9	E09	Mrs Warelis
English	KS4 Maths Intervention	Years 10/11	E04	Subject Teachers
Geography	KS4 Geography Intervention	Years 10/11	D06	Miss Pearson
History	History Intervention	Year 11	D05	Miss Brader
Maths	Maths Club	All Years	C08	Miss Wright
Maths	Maths Intervention (11B2)	Year 11	C03	Mrs Vrstiak
Music	Samba Club	All Years	A09	Miss Cocks
Religious Studies	Religious Studies Intervention	Year 11	A08	Mrs Harker
Science	STEM Club	Years 7/8/9	D13	Mr Castley / Mrs Holland
Science	Science Intervention (Higher)	Year 10	D11	Mrs Graves
Science	Science Intervention	Years 10/11	D15	Mrs Webb
THURSDAY LUNCHTIME				
Sport	Basketball Shooting	All Years	Sports Hall	Mr Dodd
Sport	CNAT Sports Intervention	Years 10/11	A07	Mrs Cooper
Art	Art Intervention Open Studio	Years 10/11	A03	Miss Salisbury
Geography	Geography Intervention	Year 11	D06	Miss Pearson
Maths	Maths Intervention (Foundation)	Year 11	C07	Mr Smith

FRIDAY LUNCHTIME				
Sport	CNAT Sports Intervention	Years 10/11	A07	Mr Dodd
History	History Intervention	Year 11	D01	Mr Butler
Maths	Maths Intervention (Foundation)	Year 11	C01	Miss Woolley
Maths	Maths Intervention (Higher)	Year 11	C06	Miss Wright
PSHE	LGBTQ+ Club	All Years	E06	Mr Kelly / Mrs Whitehead
Science	Steps to Science Success	Year 11	D12	Miss Cassidy / Mrs Webb

After school extra-curricular activities

Unless otherwise arranged by the organiser, all after-school activities will run for one hour. All after-school sports run from 3.15pm to 4.30pm.

MONDAY AFTER-SCHOOL				
Sport	Boys Football	All Years	Sports Hall	Mr Dodd
Sport	Fitness Suite	Years 9/10/11	Fitness Suite	Miss Pearson / Miss Platt
Sport	Sports Leaders	Years 9/10	Gym	Miss Ward
History	History Intervention	Year 11	D01	Miss Whitelam
Science	Science Intervention (Higher)	Years 10/11	D12	Miss Cassidy
TUESDAY AFTER-SCHOOL				
Sport	Netball	Years 7/8	Sports Hall	Mrs Cooper / Miss Ward
Sport	Table Tennis	All Years	Gym	Mr Dodd
Sport	Fitness Suite	Year 7	Sports Hall	Miss Williams / Miss Anne Liley
WEDNESDAY AFTER-SCHOOL				
Sport	Badminton	All Years	Gym	Subject Teachers
Sport	Basketball	All Years	Sports Hall	Mr Reed
Sport	Fitness Suite	Years 9/10/11	Fitness Suite	Mr Mason
Art	Art Intervention Open Studio	Years 10/11	A07	Miss McDonald
Food	Food Technology Intervention	Year 11	D07	Mr Jagger
THURSDAY AFTER-SCHOOL				
Sport	Netball	Years 9/10/11	Sports Hall	Miss Ward
Sport	Fitness Suite	Year 8	Fitness Suite	Mr Butler
Sport	CNAT Sports Intervention	Years 10/11	A07	Mr Dodd
Art	Art Intervention Open Studio	Years 10/11	A03	Miss Salisbury
English	English Intervention (Grade 7+)	Year 11	E02	Mrs Warelis / Ms Kamsika
Maths	Maths Drop-In	Year 11	C01	Miss Woolley
Religious Studies	Religious Studies Intervention	Year 11	A08	Mrs Harker
FRIDAY AFTER-SCHOOL				
Sport	CNAT Sports Intervention	Years 10/11	A08	Mr Reed